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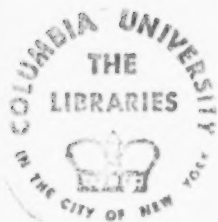
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NORTH IDAHO

LAND USE DECISIONS

SUMMARY



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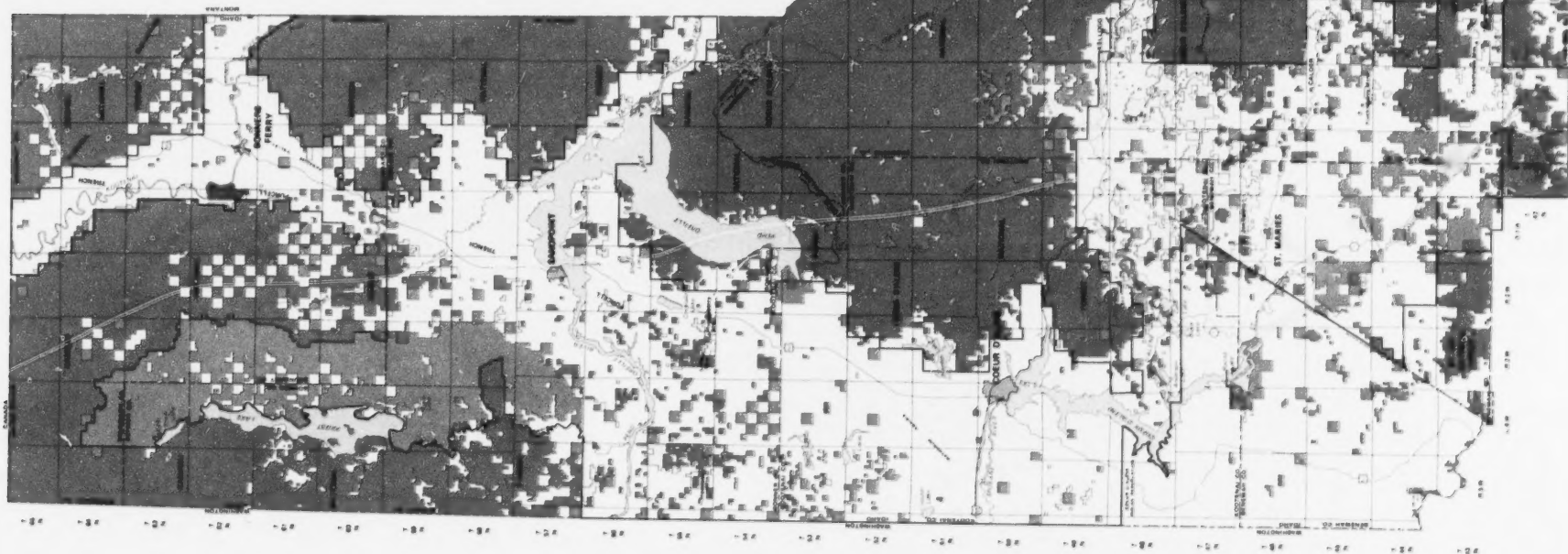
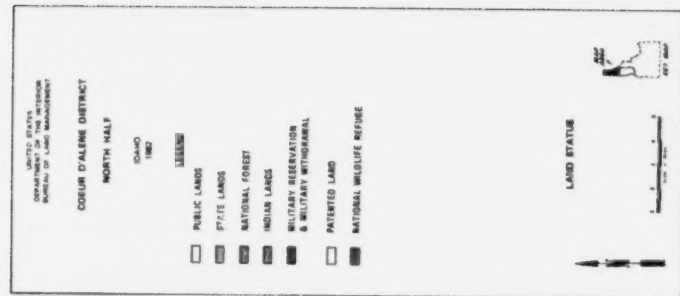


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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, land, wildlife, mineral, park and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial Affairs are also concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources."

The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States — now and in the future.

The Bureau of Land Management, an agency in the Department of the Interior, administers programs for conservation and development of the public lands and resources. In Idaho, there are six Bureau of Land Management districts with offices in Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Salmon and Shoshone. Detached resource area offices are located in Cottonwood and Soda Springs.

Cover:

Beauty Bay at Lake Coeur d'Alene where Bureau of Land Management and Idaho Department of Fish and Game work together under a Cooperative Agreement to enhance Bald Eagle populations and habitat.

INTRODUCTION

This brochure summarizes the land-use decisions of the Coeur d'Alene District as presented in the Emerald Empire and Chief Joseph Management Framework Plans (MFPs). These decisions are designed to guide management activities in the district for the next 10 years. Because of the large quantity and complex nature of the decisions, only the more significant decisions for each resource activity are presented.

Management framework plan decisions, as the title implies, provide overall guidance for resource management activities. These decisions are flexible and may be revised as new or additional information becomes available. They may also be revised to meet the changing needs of the public and to cope with changing local and national conditions. In the event a need for major revision is foreseen, the public will be informed and asked to assist in shaping the revision.

The complete Emerald Empire and Chief Joseph MFPs with related documents, maps, and overlays are available for review at the Coeur d'Alene District Office and Cottonwood Resource Area Headquarters. The Coeur d'Alene District Office is located at 1808 North 3rd Street in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, phone (208) 667-2561, Extension 356. The Cottonwood Resource Area Headquarters is located at Route 3, Box 181 in Cottonwood, Idaho, phone (208) 962-3245. Regular office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We wish to thank everyone who became involved in this planning effort over the past few years and look forward to working with you in the future.

Wayne Zinne
District Manager
Coeur d'Alene District

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Coeur d'Alene District administers 250,000 acres of public land in Idaho's 11 northernmost counties. This land accounts for about 2 percent of Idaho Panhandle's 14 million acre land base and is intermingled with private, state, and other federal land in relatively small, scattered land tracts. Although it is unlikely that any particular social system or lifestyle is primarily dependent on BLM administered land for survival, this public land does provide varied resource uses and is important to the local users. This land is also an integral part of cooperative management efforts with adjoining landowners.

The Coeur d'Alene District boundaries extend from the Canadian border south to the Payette National Forest in an area about 220 miles long by 70 miles wide. The region displays a topographic profile ranging from river canyon areas with elevations of less than 1,000 feet, to the hilly agricultural land of the central Panhandle, to mountainous areas with elevations exceeding 8,400 feet.

Most of the area within the Panhandle region (77 percent) is forest land; 11 percent is rangeland; 10 percent is agricultural land; and the remaining 2 percent is in urban use. Timber production is the major industry in the Panhandle region, and this region is Idaho's major timber source. Mining occurs in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District between Kellogg and Mullan where lead, zinc, silver, and other valuable metals are extracted. With its many lakes and streams and diverse wildlife habitat, the region is also known for its scenic beauty and outdoor recreation.

On public land, timber and minerals are also leading economic resource values. Other resource values include forage for livestock, outdoor recreation opportunities, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat. Public land uses also include various rights-of-way, permits, and leases, e.g., vehicle access, electrical transmission lines, and fences.

Approximately 73 percent of the total public land area is forest and the remaining 27 percent is grassland and other nonforest. In general, air quality within the district meets state and federal standards and water quality is very good. Public land contains segments of many streams and rivers, but only in a few cases does public land make up a majority of a stream's length. Most soils within the district are well vegetated and stable, showing relatively insignificant erosion rates.

MAJOR ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

Major issues and problems result from present and potential land use conflicts, unavoidable environmental impacts of resource development, and social and economic impacts on local communities and life styles. Through the BLM's planning process, with the assistance of other governmental agencies and organizations and individuals of the public, no issues or problems of a major controversial nature were identified. However, many issues and problems were identified that helped shape the direction, emphasis, and ultimately the decisions of the plan. Major areas of concern included land use planning and controls, environmental protection, wildlife, livestock grazing management, multiple use management, coordination with other entities, recreation, mining, and timber management.

SIGNIFICANT MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Following is a summary of the major land use decisions. These decisions cover the Coeur d'Alene District based on the Emerald Empire and Chief Joseph Management Framework Plans (MFPs). You may review the complete planning documents and related material at the BLM offices in Coeur d'Alene and Cottonwood.

FORESTRY

The goal of forest management is to provide timber to help meet local and national demands for wood products, while protecting the basic natural components of the environment. In a regional context, timber management activities on public land in the Coeur d'Alene District do not have a significant effect. Public lands account for about 1 percent of the total northern Idaho harvest and an even smaller percentage of the total productive forest land base. Over the past 10 years, the average annual timber harvest volume has been about 12.8 million board feet. Major productive timber species in the district include ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, grand fir, and western white pine.

Through the land use planning process, 68,328 acres of productive forest lands will be managed under either intensive or extensive management (see Map 1). Lands classified for intensive forest management will be managed to maximize timber production on a sustained yield basis. Lands classified for extensive management will also be managed for timber production on a sustained yield basis; however, few intensive practices will be applied. The remaining forest lands will not be managed for timber production. Timber from these lands will be removed only to protect or enhance adjacent forest or other resource values.

Approximately 4 million cubic feet (12.4 million board feet) annually will be harvested from the productive forest land. Minor forest products, such as firewood, will be made available to the public in areas as timber harvests are completed and in areas where removal of minor forest products would facilitate management activities. All harvested areas will be reforested within 5 years to a desirable number of trees for the future forest.

Harvest practices that will be used include clearcutting, two-stage shelterwood, seed tree, and single tree selection. Timber management practices will include approved methods of slash disposal, site preparation, reforestation, precommercial thinning, commercial thinning, and fertilization. Also, approved standards will be used for construction of new roads for moving timber from cutting sites to mills.



Hauling out a load of white pine and grand fir.

Forest management guidelines for the protection of various resource components were also developed through the land use planning process. Of particular importance are the wildlife and waterside buffer guidelines. Wildlife protection guidelines require: (1) closing some roads; (2) following the Elk Habitat Coordinating Requirements developed by the Idaho Fish and Game Department, U.S. Forest Service, University of Idaho, and the Bureau of Land Management; (3) managing dead trees (snags); (4) keeping big game hiding cover within 330 feet of heavy cutting areas; and (5) protecting active raptor nests. Waterside buffer guidelines require: (1) leaving strips of vegetation (buffers) along streams, rivers, and lakes; (2) restricting harvest activities in the buffers; (3) minimizing yarding within or through buffers; (4) restricting yarding through streams; (5) felling trees away from the buffers; and (6) removing slash or downed timber below stream highwater marks.

RANGELAND

The rangeland management program involves authorizing and supervising grazing use, developing and maintaining supportive livestock management facilities, and protecting the range from weed infestation, pests, and disease. Rangeland management is an important tool for maintaining and improving not only forage, but also the basic soil and water resources.

Grazing lands administered by the district are minimal, providing about 1.4 percent of the lessees' total livestock forage use. Although lessees receive only a small portion of their forage from public land, much of the land is valuable because it is either adjacent to or contains important watering areas, particularly along the Salmon River.

On public lands, 162 livestock operators hold grazing leases to 165 allotments totaling 121,031 acres. Seven additional allotments are presently not leased. Of the 165 leased allotments, 1 allotment has an allotment management plan (AMP) and 2 allotments have grazing systems. The remaining allotments are under



Much of the Salmon River Breaks land is used by domestic livestock and a variety of game and nongame wildlife species.

custodial management on a seasonal use basis. Of the leased allotments, 144 are grazed by cattle; 9 are grazed by cattle and horses; 3 are grazed by sheep; 3 are grazed by cattle and sheep; and 6 are grazed by horses.

Of the 121,031 acres within grazing allotments, 51 percent is unsuitable for grazing due to steep or excessively rocky topography, 21 percent is timbered, 3 percent is in excellent condition, 11 percent is in good condition, and the remaining 3 percent is in poor condition. Most range condition problems are due to poor livestock distribution caused by the steep, narrow canyons of the Salmon and Clearwater river drainages. Apparent trend in the area is 98 percent stable or upward and 2 percent downward.

As identified in the land use plans, 2 levels of management (intensive and less intensive) will be applied. Intensive management will be implemented in 14 allotments through AMPs that incorporate rest grazing treatments on 14,719 acres and deferred grazing treatments on 38,135 acres. Less intensive management will be applied to the remaining 157 allotments. On these remaining 68,177 acres, grazing treatments, proper season of use, and the stocking rates will be established.

Within 5 years after issuance of the proposed decision, livestock grazing will be adjusted from the current authorized forage use of 7,547 animal unit months (AUMs) to 6,684 AUMs, a 12 percent reduction. Within 20 years the use will increase from the initial 6,684 AUMs to 7,661 AUMs, a 13 percent increase. This allocation will provide livestock forage on a sustained yield basis.

Big game species including elk, mule deer, and white-tailed deer will be allocated 1,004 AUMs of forage. The wildlife allocation will provide forage sufficient to meet both present and future population demands.

Existing range improvements consist of an estimated 95 miles of fence, 8 spring developments, 5 catchments (reservoirs), 7 cattleguards, and 900 acres of noxious weed control. Additional improvements will be implemented on intensively managed allotments. They include 25.5 miles of fence, 30 spring developments, 7 catchments, 10 cattleguards, 2.7 miles of fence for stream protection, and 1,900 acres of noxious weed control.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

The purpose of the wildlife habitat management program is to maintain and improve wildlife habitat conditions of food, water, cover, and space. Terrestrial resources in the Coeur d'Alene District include habitat for 3 endangered species (the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, and Rocky Mountain wolf), 1 threatened species (the grizzly bear), and 17 sensitive species including the woodland caribou, fisher, pygmy shrew, and wolverine. Big game animals inhabit many parts of the district. They include elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, and black bear. Blue grouse and ruffed grouse are upland game animals also prevalent. In addition are various wildlife species dependent on riparian habitat, snags, and mature and old growth timber.

Aquatic resources include anadromous fish spawning habitat in the Salmon and Clearwater river systems and resident fish habitat in the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe river systems. Warm water fish habitat is found in low elevation lakes throughout the district. In the many streams and lakes are game fish such as chinook and sockeye salmon, steelhead and rainbow trout, largemouth bass, and black crappie.

Through the land use planning process, 20 areas totaling 22,600 acres were classified for intensive terrestrial habitat management and 10 areas totaling 34 miles of stream were classified for intensive aquatic wildlife habitat management. Management in these areas will be carried out through site-specific habitat management plans (HMPs). Intensive terrestrial management areas will be managed primarily for wildlife habitat enhancement. Intensive aquatic management areas will be managed primarily as spawning and rearing areas for anadromous and resident fish. (See Map 2 for crucial and important wildlife habitat areas.)

Intensive management areas were designated because they either have high wildlife habitat value or high potential for wildlife habitat improvement. For example, the BLM winter ranges in the Silver Belt and Salmon River breaks areas are important to



BLM lands provide habitat for deer and other wildlife species.

big game populations. These areas will be intensively managed for wildlife. The anadromous fish spawning habitat of the Salmon and Clearwater river systems is important to salmon and steelhead populations and will, therefore, also be intensively managed.

The remaining lower value habitat areas were designated for less intensive management. In these areas, HMPs will not be developed and management actions typically will not be as extensive as in the intensive management areas. Wildlife management will occur in response to other resource management plans and will be compatible with the dominant resource use of the area.

Throughout the district, wildlife habitat will be protected for endangered, threatened, and sensitive species; aquatic and riparian species; and species dependent upon snags and mature and old growth timber.

Wildlife will be allocated forage sufficient to meet present and future population demands as determined in coordination with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Formal wildlife forage allocations totaling 1,004 AUMs have been made on public lands grazed by both big game and livestock. On public lands not grazed by livestock, no formal allocations will be made, but adequate wildlife forage will be maintained. Future allocations will depend upon wildlife population levels and results of vegetation inventories, studies, and monitoring.

A partial list of wildlife management activities that may occur on either intensive or less intensive management areas follows. This is only a sample list since the entire list is too lengthy to include here:

1. Prescribed burning for improved forage quality and quantity.
2. Installation of spring developments.
3. Seeding and planting forbs, grasses, and shrubs for improved forage quality and quantity.
4. Installation of drift fences to reduce livestock impacts to streams.
5. Removal of fish migration barriers.
6. Rehabilitation of streambanks.

RECREATION SETTING

The Bureau's primary recreation management goal is to ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreation opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other public or private entities. Secondary goals including protecting resources, meeting legal requirements for visitor health and safety, and resolving user conflicts involving recreation.

For the most part, BLM is not a major recreation supplier in the Coeur d'Alene District. Most public lands in the district are used inadvertently and often unknowingly by recreationists in conjunction with use on other land. Noted exceptions are the Rochat, Grandmother Mountain, Silver Belt, Elk City, Marshall Mountain, and lower Salmon and Snake river areas where BLM lands are concentrated in larger blocks.

These larger areas have regional and local significance for hunting, fishing, water sports, off-road vehicle (ORV) use, minerals collecting, and dispersed general leisure activities. Of special significance are the lower Salmon and Snake rivers. The segment of the Snake River within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is a "component" of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Both the lower Snake and Salmon rivers have been designated as "study rivers" under the Wild and Scenic River Act.

To ensure the continued variety and quality of recreation opportunities in the district, public lands under the land use planning process were classified into 1 of 6 categories:

<u>Opportunity</u>	<u>Total Acres Classified</u>
Primitive (P)	0
Semi-Primitive Nonmotorized (SPNM)	30,896
Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)	34,707
Roaded Natural (RN)	156,817
Rural (R)	28,540
Urban (U)	479
TOTAL	251,439



River running is a popular activity on the Salmon River.



District recreation sites include this shelter on Mineral Ridge just east of Coeur d'Alene.

Each class contains general objectives to be achieved, giving the manager or planner a framework around which to develop more precise prescriptions based on the specific field situation. For instance, a semi-primitive nonmotorized area is characterized by a predominantly unmodified natural environment. Concentration of users is low, but there may be evidence of other users in the area. It provides some opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of man and a high degree of interaction with the natural environment. Camping, hiking, climbing, swimming, fishing, and sailing are examples of the types of activity opportunities available. (See Map 3 for the general location of semi-primitive areas.)

In contrast, a rural area is characterized by a substantially modified natural environment. Sights and sounds of man are readily evident, and the concentration of users is often moderate to high. Opportunities to experience contact with individuals and

groups are prevalent. Activity opportunities may include, among others, competitive games, spectator sports, bicycling, and modern resorts.

Those areas needing further planning to meet recreation management objectives were also identified through the land use planning process. They include the lower Salmon River, Beauty Bay, Killarney Lake, and Huckleberry Campground. Containing 15 of the district's 18 developed recreation sites, these areas will be primarily managed for recreation use.

On the remaining public lands, recreation opportunity settings will be maintained through BLM stewardship management. Direct management activities will be limited unless conflicts occur or resource damage is likely without management.

VISUAL SETTING

The purpose of BLM's visual resource management (VRM) program is to classify and help protect or enhance the scenic quality of public lands. Under the Bureau's VRM system, the quality and importance of the visual resource is evaluated and placed into 1 of 4 VRM classes. For each of the 4 VRM classes, specific management objectives have been established. They allow for differing degrees of visual contrast from the landscape's existing character due to management activities.

The management objectives under each classification are general and not intended to be site specific. Rather, they are to help determine methods, concepts, and procedures that can be applied to reduce the visual impact of management practices and projects and to rehabilitate visually degraded areas.



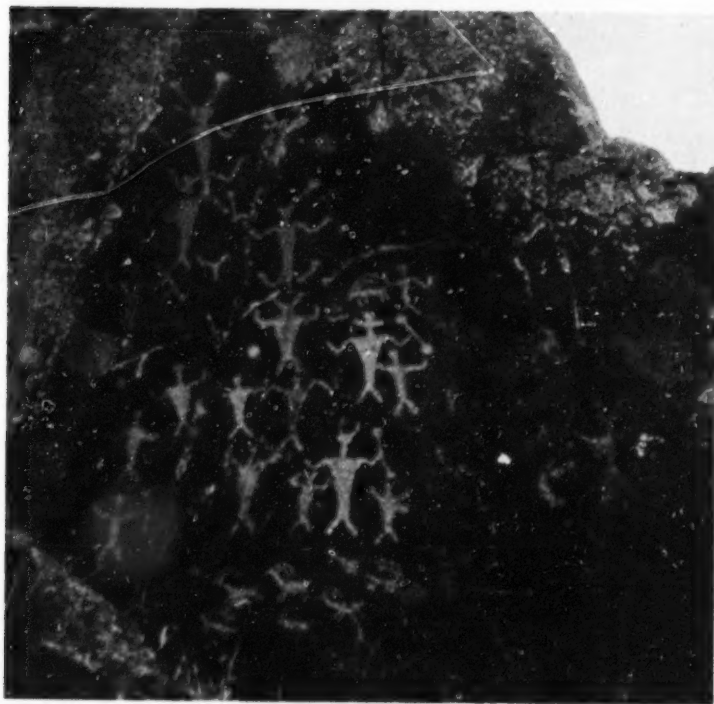
Scenic vistas are protected through the visual resource management program.

A VRM Class I area is the most primitive in character and has the most restrictions on visual contrast disturbance. (See Map 4 for the general location of VRM Class I and Class II areas.) A VRM Class IV area has the highest degree of existing modifications and the fewest restrictions on management activities. Through the land use planning process, public lands in the district have been classified as follows:

<u>VRM Class</u>	<u>Percent of Public Lands Classified</u>
I	13
II	22
III	41
IV	24

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The BLM has the responsibility to protect and preserve the cultural remnants of our historic and prehistoric past on public lands. These remnants include artifacts, structures, sites, and other evidences of human activity. Prehistoric evidence (before written history) in the area ranges from winter villages along the major rivers to campsites in the upland areas. Evidences of historic use, which began in 1804 with the Lewis and Clark expedition, are extremely varied. Among others, they include old trails, mines, logging operations, homesteads, missions, and Native American sites.



Petroglyphs on the Snake River near Lewiston.



The Skitswish Monuments were used by Native Americans in religious ceremonies.

The district land use plans identify 6 sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and another 3 sites already on the Register. The National Register of Historic Places, established by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, is the official list of the Nation's significant cultural resources. Following is a list of these important cultural sites and areas that are located on public land and managed by the BLM:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Cataldo Mission	Historic Mission	Entered on the Register 10-15-66
White Bird Battlefield	Historic Battle	Entered on the Register 7-18-78
Nez Perce—Snake River Archaeological District	Prehistoric and Nez Perce Use	Entered on the Register 12-22-78
Skitswish Monuments	Prehistoric and Coeur d'Alene Use	Eligible
Rock Creek Flume	Historic Mining	Eligible
Lower Salmon River	Prehistoric and Historic	Eligibility Pending
Elk City Mining District	Historic Mining	Eligibility Pending
Warren Townsite	Historic Mining	Eligibility Pending
Golden Anchor Mine	Historic Mining	Eligibility Pending

Some management activities involved in implementing the district's multiple use program pose a potential threat to cultural properties. Because of this fact, the BLM will conduct site-specific cultural inventories in potential impact areas, supplementing previous surveys, to locate, identify, and evaluate sites and areas that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Until a determination of eligibility is obtained, every effort will be made to avoid adverse effects. Decisions on the necessary protection measures will be made on a case-by-case basis.

WATERSHED

Due to the scattered land patterns within the district, the watershed program's primary emphasis is ensuring the protection of the watershed resource utilizing "best" management practices. Two key watershed issues, streamside zones and soil erosion from roads, are addressed in MFP-adopted policies. These policies set forth our basic procedures in handling waterside buffers and roads within the district. On individual projects, any deviations from the basic guidelines would be noted and assessed in environmental assessments.

The basic buffer policy provides for stream and waterside vegetation buffer guidelines to protect water quality, aquatic habitat, wildlife habitat, and scenic values. The size of the buffer and constraints of activities in the buffers vary with the stream zone values.



Clean water is a result of good watershed management.

The road policy presents guidelines to provide for an adequate road system while protecting the environment. The policy addresses the basic procedures, considerations, and design features for road planning, road design and specifications, road construction, and road maintenance.

Another major watershed protection measure concerns limiting off-road vehicles (ORVs) to roads only on BLM lands in important municipal watershed lands. These watersheds supply Rathdru, Sandpoint, St. Maries, Elk City, and the Silver Valley. Also, on all "limited" or "closed" ORV use areas, an approved plan of mining operation is required before mining-related disturbance can take place. This provides an added measure of protection to municipal watersheds as well as other sensitive watershed areas throughout the district.

LANDS AND REALTY

The lands and realty program maintains the public lands records of the district and issues public land status and other information about these lands. It processes land use and mineral exploration and recovery applications (casework). Activities include field examinations, classification and issuance of jurisdictional land use decisions, leases, permits, and rights-of-way.

The district is composed of 250,000 acres of highly fragmented land tracts ranging in size from about 0.10 acres to over 20,000 acres. Most of the larger land tracts adjoin National Forest lands, while the smaller, scattered tracts are predominantly surrounded by state and private lands. By its nature, this fragmented land pattern has involved us in a large quantity of right-of-way and trespass cases and survey projects.



The District issues many rights-of-way, including those for power transmission lines.

Major decisions of the district's MFPs are designed to help meet the needs of local communities, to reduce the required workload needed to serve the general public, and to enhance the administration of the various public resource management programs. These decisions include the following:

1. Where possible, provide public lands to meet land needs for community expansion, industrial development, and other public needs under the Bureau's Good Neighbor Policy, the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and other applicable lands and minerals laws.
2. Continue actions to terminate unauthorized use on public land. As appropriate, authorize such uses through leases, permits, or rights-of-way.
3. Where recognized to be in the public interest, pursue land exchanges and public sale transactions.
4. Pursue permanent and temporary easements to public land and National Forest land.

MINERALS AND ENERGY

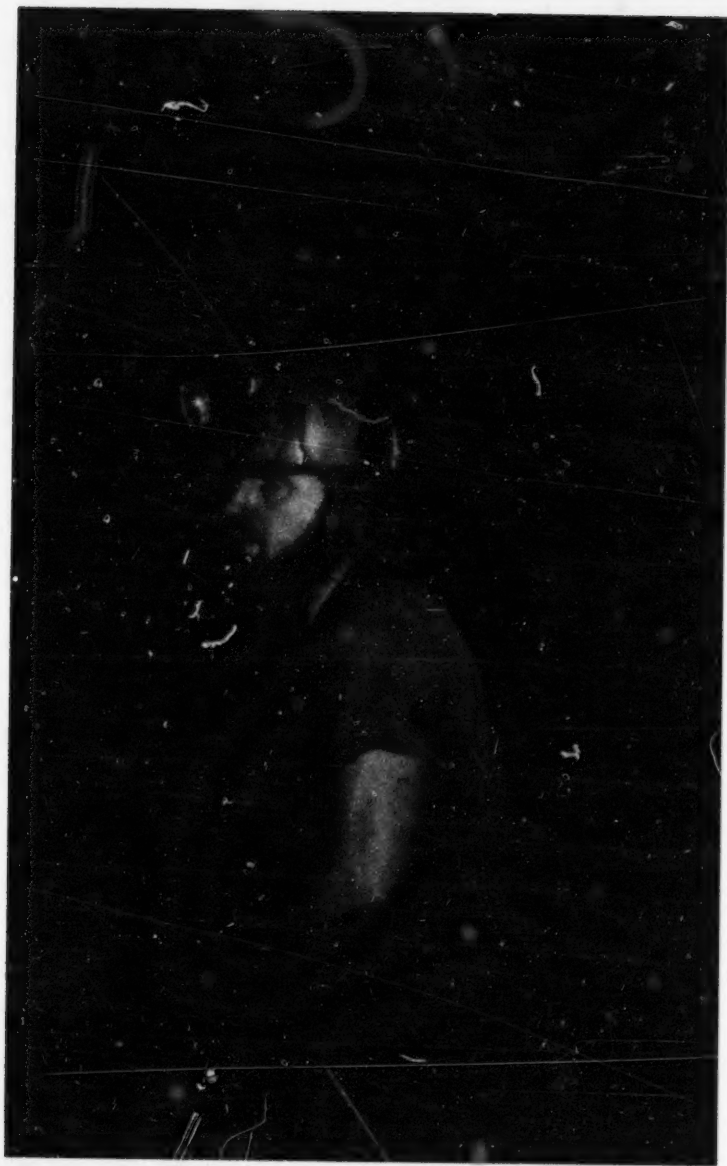
The objective of BLM's minerals and energy management program is to make these resource commodities available to meet national and local needs. This is accomplished by ensuring orderly and timely resource development, protection of the environment, and fair market values for minerals leased or sold. Minerals on public lands are available under three distinct systems — location, material sale, and leasing.

In the Coeur d'Alene District, most mining activity centers around locatable minerals. Much of the district is covered by mining claims which have been staked primarily for base and precious metals (locatable minerals) such as lead, zinc, copper, gold, and silver. Along the Salmon River, there is an interest in gold placer deposits as evidenced by an approved dredging operation and a combination surface/underground exploration project. In the Silver Belt area around Kellogg and Wallace, considerable exploration has been occurring and several mines and mills are in operation. Other areas of locatable mineral activity include Murray, Pine Creek, Marshall Lakes, and Elk City.

Mineral materials (saleable minerals) are presently in minimal demand on public land in the district. Saleable material includes mineral materials such as sand, stone, and gravel. There is little commercial potential for leasable minerals such as oil, gas, coal, or geothermal resources; therefore, the district has no pending applications or prospecting permits or leases.

Miners have a statutory right to enter upon, explore, locate, and purchase under the mining laws those public lands open to mining. The MFP planning decisions have had little effect in changing the status of lands currently open to mineral entry (claim staking). The decision to retain a proposed protective withdrawal along the Salmon River will continue to prohibit further mineral entry in that area. Also, various areas throughout the district have been designated as "closed" or "limited" to off-road vehicles for protection of wildlife habitat, municipal watersheds, etc. On these areas, an approved plan of mining operation is required by regulation before mining-related disturbance can take place.

The amount of locatable minerals activity is expected to fluctuate due to the economy and any related changes in metal prices. Applications for saleable minerals should increase slightly due to a projected increase in demand for material needed for fill and road maintenance.



Mining is an important activity on much of the District land.

VEHICLE USE MANAGEMENT

Off-road vehicle use is regarded as one of many acceptable uses on most public lands. However, some areas are limited or closed to vehicle use in order to protect various components of the natural environment. In the Coeur d'Alene District, several areas have been designated for vehicle limitation or closure in order to protect important and fragile wildlife habitat, cultural resources, watershed, and semi-primitive recreation areas. Before the designations go into effect on the ground, implementation plans will be developed.

Approximately 5,100 acres have been designated for total closure, 15,200 acres for seasonal closure, and 8,900 acres for travel on roads only. For instance, 640 acres in the East Fork of the American River area have been designated for vehicle closure to protect moose nursery areas and high value moose summer range. In the Lolo Creek area, 4,000 acres have been designated for seasonal closure from December 1 to June 15 to protect important mule deer, white-tailed deer, and elk winter and spring range. In the Salmon River area, 270 acres have been designated for vehicle limitation to roads during snow-free period to protect cultural sites.

WATERSIDE BUFFERS

As part of the land use planning decisions, district buffer guidelines will be followed to provide water and waterside vegetation buffers in order to protect water quality, aquatic habitat, and wildlife habitat. Within the buffer strips, management activities will be limited to those that minimize wildlife and stream habitat disturbance and those that protect the soil and vegetative cover. Protection of the soil and vegetative cover will reduce introduction of sediment into lakes and streams.

Buffer strip locations and widths will be established on a case-by-case basis. The buffer strips may range from a minimum of 25 feet wide to over 500 feet wide and will be located on selected streams, lakes, and major rivers within BLM jurisdiction.

ROAD GUIDELINES

To effectively manage certain public lands, adequate access is needed. For example, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to conduct a timber sale or run a grazing operation without roads. In the Coeur d'Alene District, road guidelines were developed and adopted under the land use planning process to provide an adequate, usable road system while protecting the environment. Although a complete listing of all these guidelines would be too lengthy to include here, a few excerpts are listed to illustrate the kinds of measures now being taken to plan, design, construct, and maintain roads in the district:

- Roads will be planned and developed in cooperation with other landowners.
- The road planner must be able to recognize potential impacts to resource values (silviculture, soils, water, fisheries, wildlife, visual, recreation, etc.) and will consult with appropriate specialists when problems are suspected.
- Roads will be designed no wider than necessary to accommodate the anticipated use.
- Road drainage systems will be designed to avoid direct sediment discharge into streams.

- Potentially unstable or erodible material exposed or generated during construction will be stabilized as soon as feasible by seeding, compacting, riprapping, benching, mulching, or other suitable means.
- All slumps, slides, and other road erosion features causing stream sedimentation will be repaired or stabilized during maintenance.
- Roads will be checked periodically or after major runoff to determine if maintenance is needed.

ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

When considered in a regional context, none of the management decisions would have any significant environmental effect. In a local context, decisions involving the forestry, range, watershed, recreation, and wildlife programs would result in beneficial resource and social and economic impacts. These decisions represent the balanced use alternative selected during the planning process and are designed to foster resource production and utilization while ensuring minimum adverse impacts.

Before management activities are initiated, environmental assessments will be conducted to identify potential environment impacts. This will minimize the likelihood of adverse environmental impacts. To date, environmental impact statements have been completed for the forestry and range management programs. Both statements concluded that the environmental consequences of each program would be insignificant.

COORDINATION

Many public land use decisions have the potential to be affected by and to affect management decisions on adjacent lands. During development of the Emerald Empire and Chief Joseph MFPs, emphasis was placed on coordinating these plans with organizations and individuals of the public and other federal, state, and local government officials. This was done to ensure that BLM planning efforts and management decisions would not conflict with private land uses and land use plans and activities of other agencies.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

This plan will be followed by on-the-ground actions. Some decisions in the plan will require more detailed planning before implementation.

Development projects are subject to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An environmental assessment and appropriate documentation will be prepared as required by law. Based on anticipated environmental consequences, proposed actions may be accepted, modified, or rejected. Some decisions have already been or are being implemented.

The MFP decisions will be used in programming and budgeting for the annual work plan. Because on-the-ground actions depend on funding by Congress, it may be some time before some decisions are implemented.

In response to changing resource conditions and management requirements, this plan will be updated and management decisions will be revised as new information becomes available. The public will have opportunities to participate in the planning process when major revisions are made.

GLOSSARY

Allotment — An area of land where one or more individuals graze their livestock. It generally consists of public land, but may include parcels of private or state owned lands. An allotment may consist of several pastures.

Allotment Management Plan — A detailed plan for intensively managing and improving a specific grazing allotment.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) — The amount of forage required to sustain one cow (1,000 pounds) with one calf under 6 months of age or their equivalent for one month. For this district, an AUM represents 800 pounds (air dried) of palatable forage.

Apparent Trend — The direction in range condition described as upward, stable, or downward.

Board Foot — A unit of solid wood, 1 foot square by 1 inch thick.

Buffer Strip — A shield area that separates a management action from the object or thing to be protected.

Bureau Planning System — A process used in the BLM to establish land use allocations, constraints, and objectives for various categories of public land use.

Clearcutting — A method of timber harvesting in which all trees, merchantable or unmerchantable, are cut from an area at one time.

Environmental Assessment (EA) — A systematic environmental analysis of site-specific BLM activities. Used to determine whether such activities would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment and whether a formal environmental impact statement is required.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) — A document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed action and several alternatives.

Management Framework Plan (MFP) — Land use plan for public lands which provides a set of goals, objectives, allocations, and constraints for a specific planning area to guide the development of detailed plans for the management of each resource.

Multiple Use — Management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people.

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) — Any motorized vehicle designated for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, marsh, swampland, or other terrain.

Prescribed Burning — Skillful application of fire to natural fuels under conditions of weather, fuel moisture, soil moisture, and other conditions that will produce the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to accomplish certain planned benefits to one or more objectives of silviculture, wildlife management, grazing, and hazard reduction.

Productive Forest Land — Forest land that is now producing or is capable of producing at least 20 cubic feet per acre per year of commercial coniferous tree species.

Public Lands — Lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management for multiple uses.

Range Condition — The current productivity of a range relative to what that range is naturally capable of producing.

Riparian — As used here, riparian refers to the areas adjacent to streams and other bodies of water, e.g., wet meadows, springs, marshes.

Riprap — A foundation or sustaining wall of stones thrown together without order on an embankment slope to prevent erosion.

Seed Tree — A form of two-stage partial timber cutting that removes more than 80 percent of the existing stand. The remaining trees provide seed for the new forest and are removed about 10 years later.

Silviculture — The art of producing and tending a forest; application of the knowledge of the life history and general characteristics of forest trees and stands for controlling the establishment, composition, and growth of a forest.

Single Tree Selection — A form of partial cutting that removes selected individual trees from the stand.

Slash — The residue left on the ground after felling timber.

Snag Dependent Animals — Animals that depend on dead trees for all or part of their life cycles.

Stocking Rate — The actual number of animals, expressed in animal unit months, on a specific area at a specific time.

Sustained Yield — The yield that a renewable resource can produce continuously at a given intensity of management.

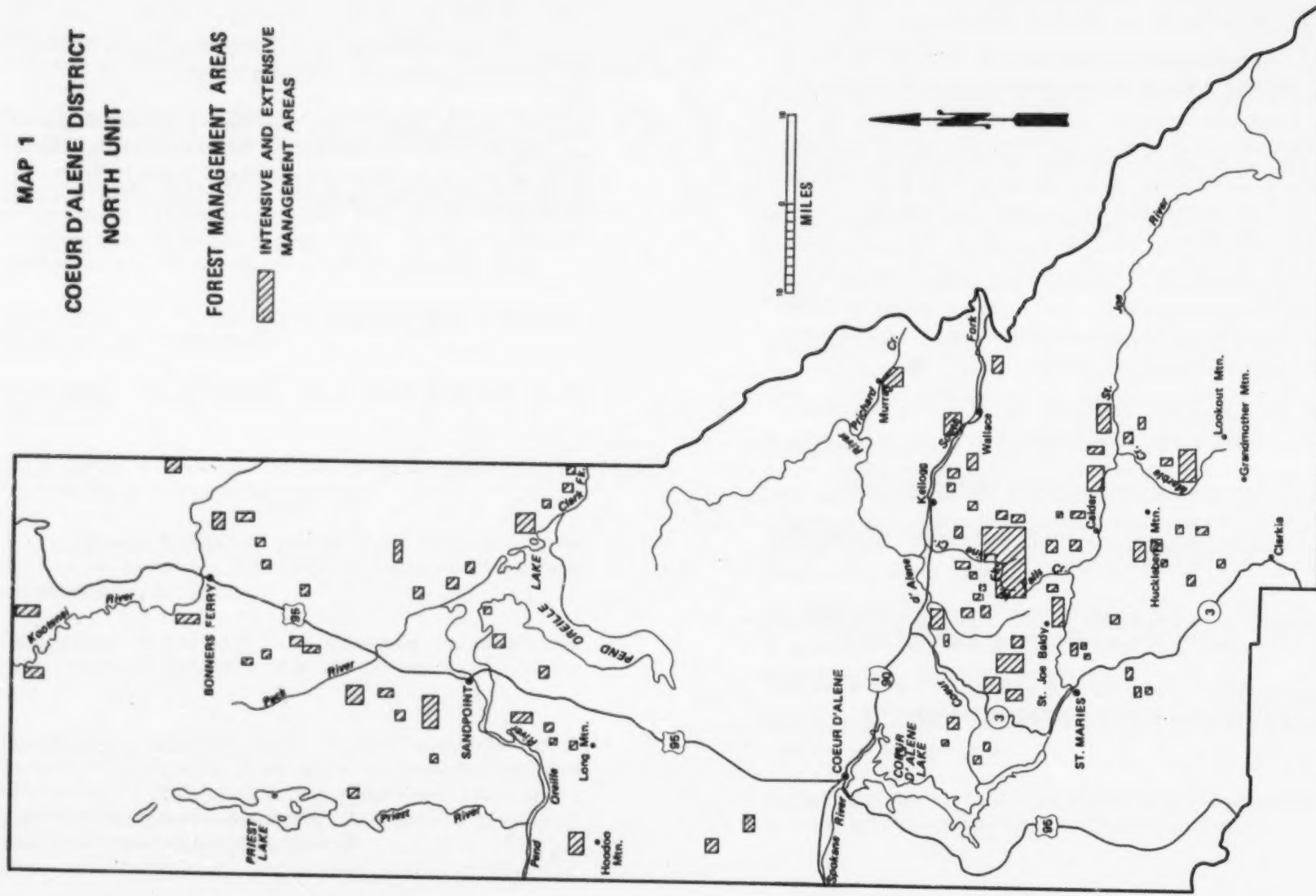
Two-Stage Shelterwood Cutting — A series of two partial cuttings designed to establish a new crop of trees under the protection of the old.

Visual Contrast — The effect of a striking difference in the form, line, color, or texture of an area being viewed.

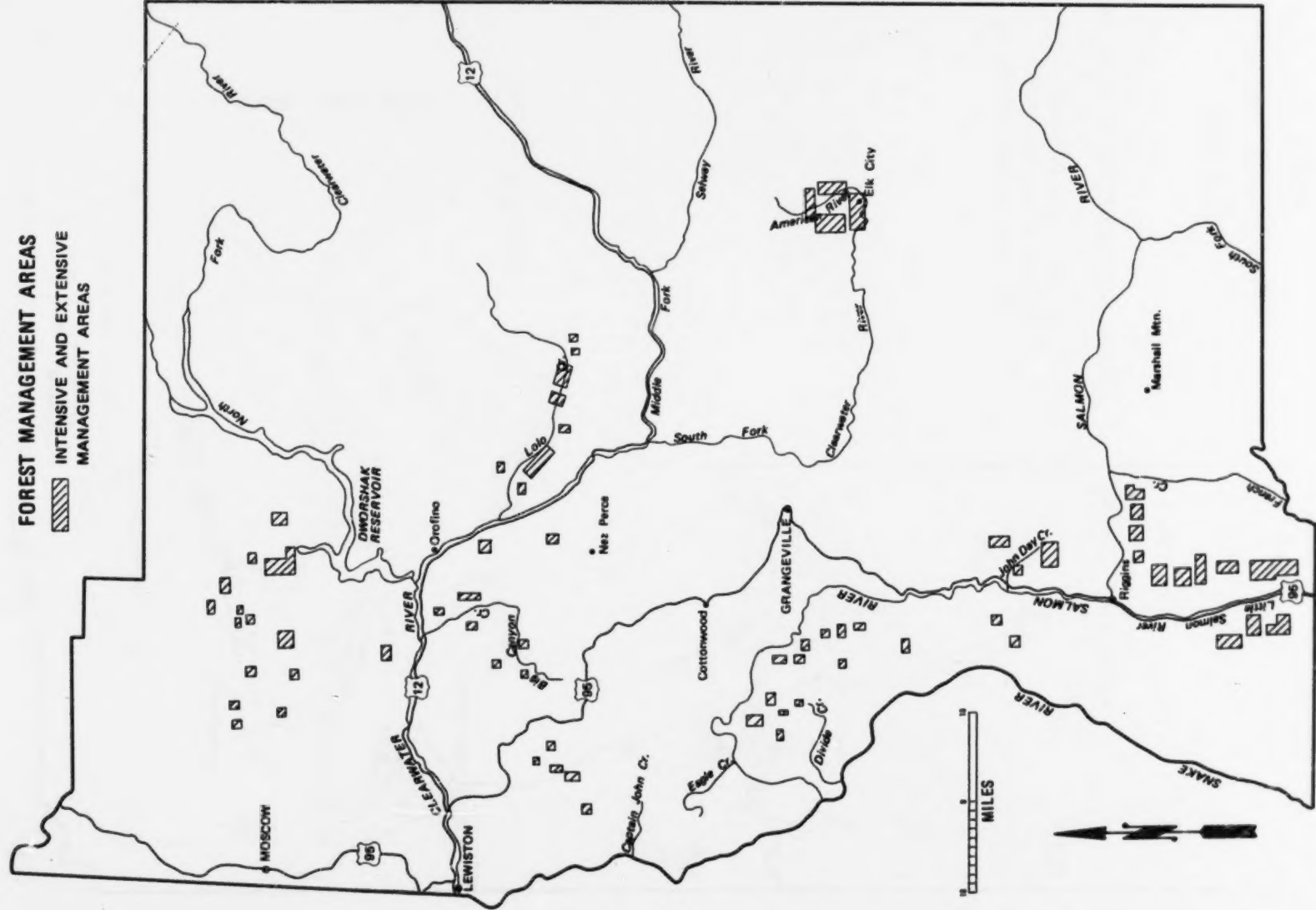
Wild and Scenic River — Any free-flowing stream designated and authorized for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as provided by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October, 1968 (P.L. 90-542).

MAP 1
COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
NORTH UNIT

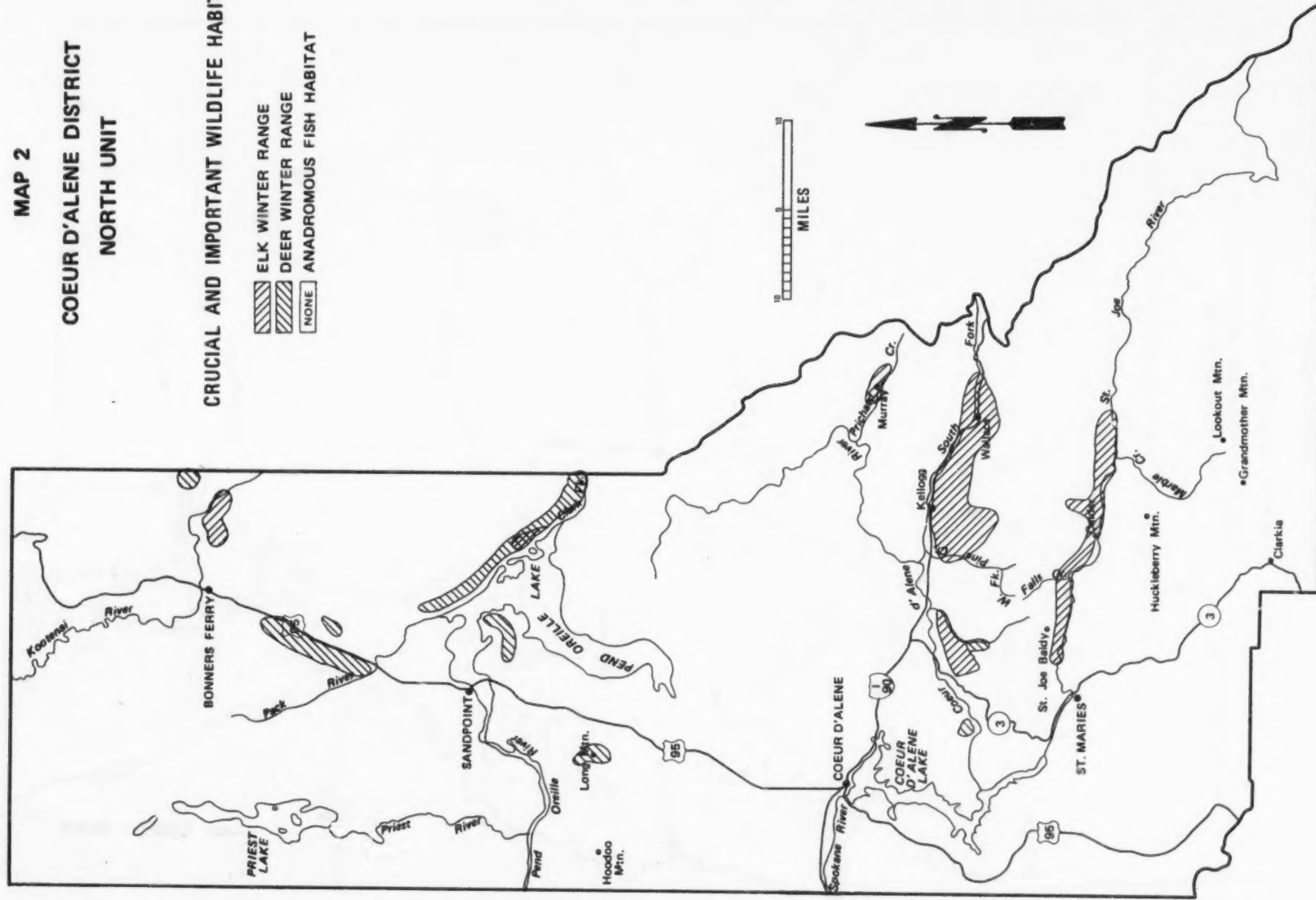
FOREST MANAGEMENT AREAS
INTENSIVE AND EXTENSIVE
MANAGEMENT AREAS



MAP 1 (CONT.)
 COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
 SOUTH UNIT
 FOREST MANAGEMENT AREAS
 INTENSIVE AND EXTENSIVE
 MANAGEMENT AREAS



MAP 2
COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
NORTH UNIT
CRUCIAL AND IMPORTANT WILDLIFE HABITAT



MAP 2 (CONT.)

COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
SOUTH UNIT

CRUCIAL AND IMPORTANT WILDLIFE HABITAT

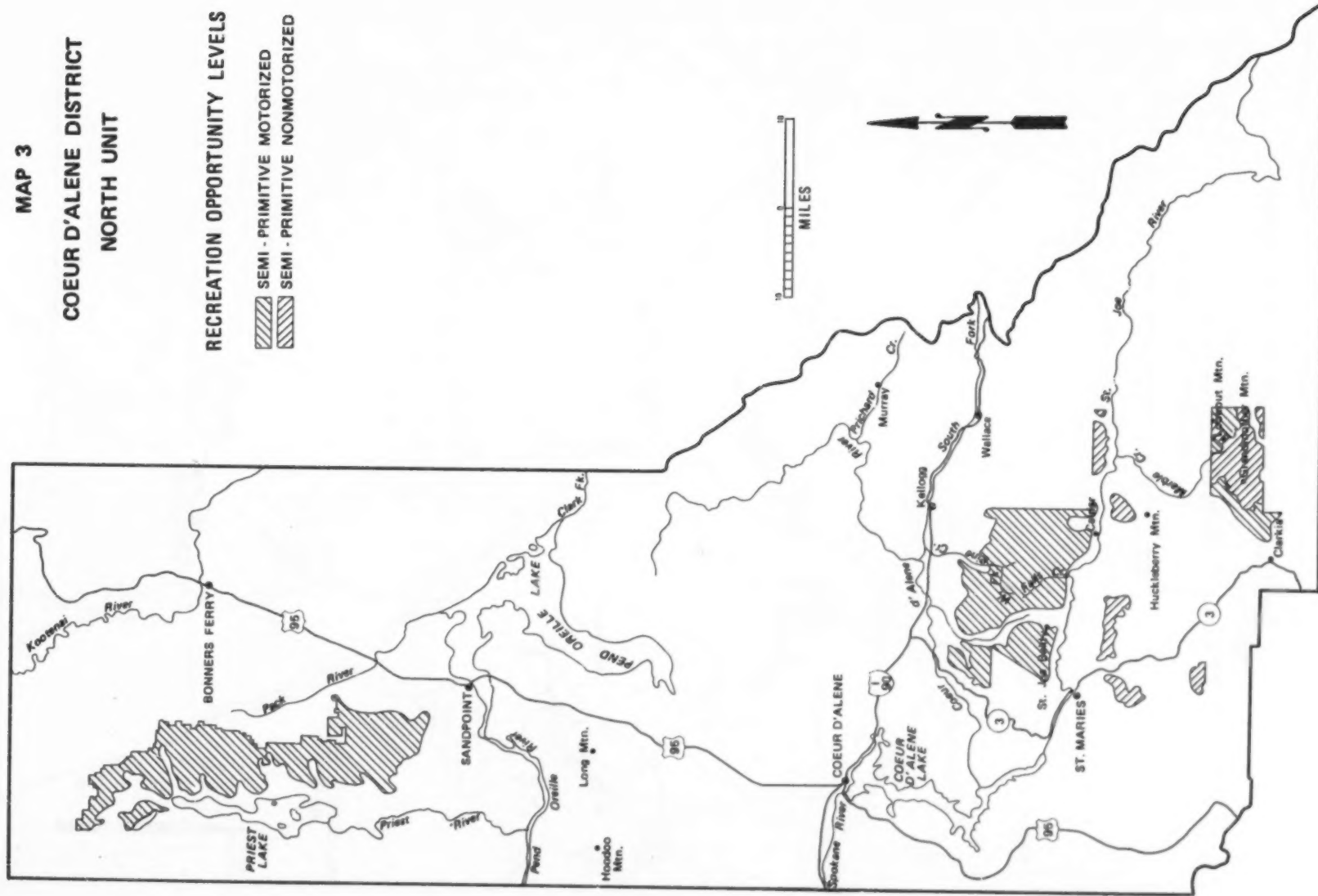
 ELK WINTER RANGE
 DEER WINTER RANGE
 ANADROMOUS FISH HABITAT



MAP 3
COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
NORTH UNIT

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY LEVELS

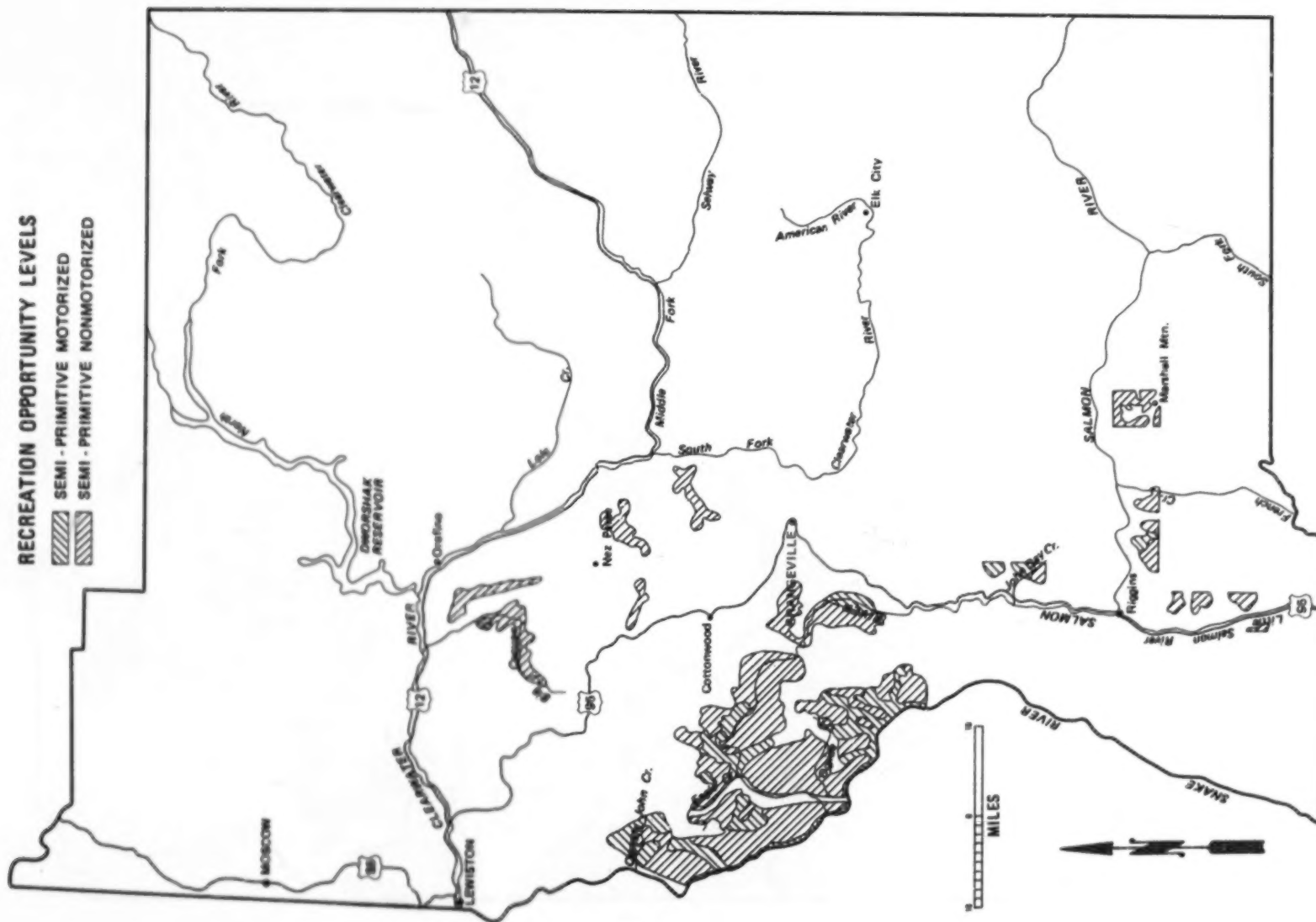
SEMI - PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED
 SEMI - PRIMITIVE NONMOTORIZED



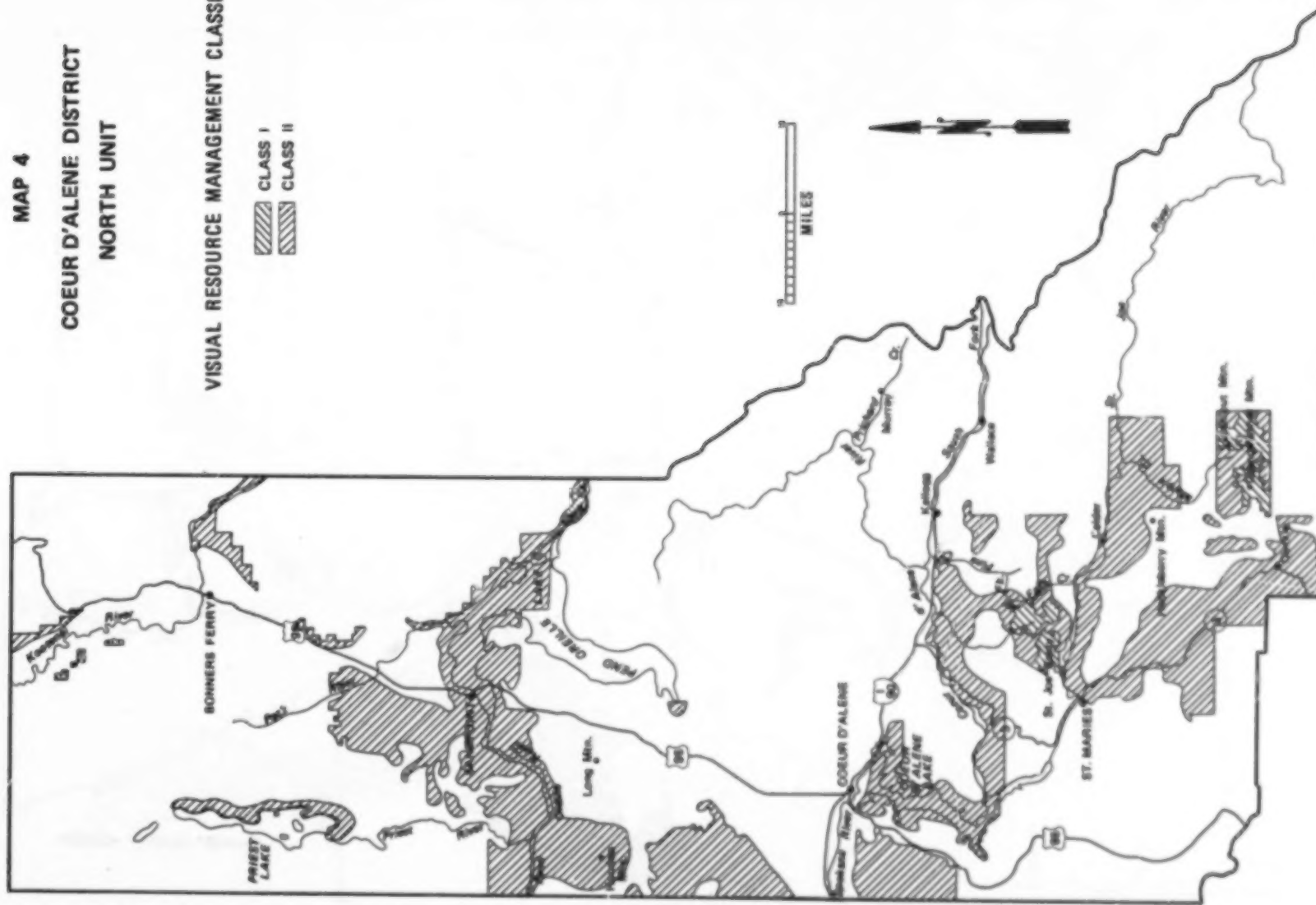
MAP 3 (CONT.)
COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
SOUTH UNIT

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY LEVELS

- SEMI - PRIMITIVE MOTORIZED
- SEMI - PRIMITIVE NONMOTORIZED



MAP 4
COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
NORTH UNIT
VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES

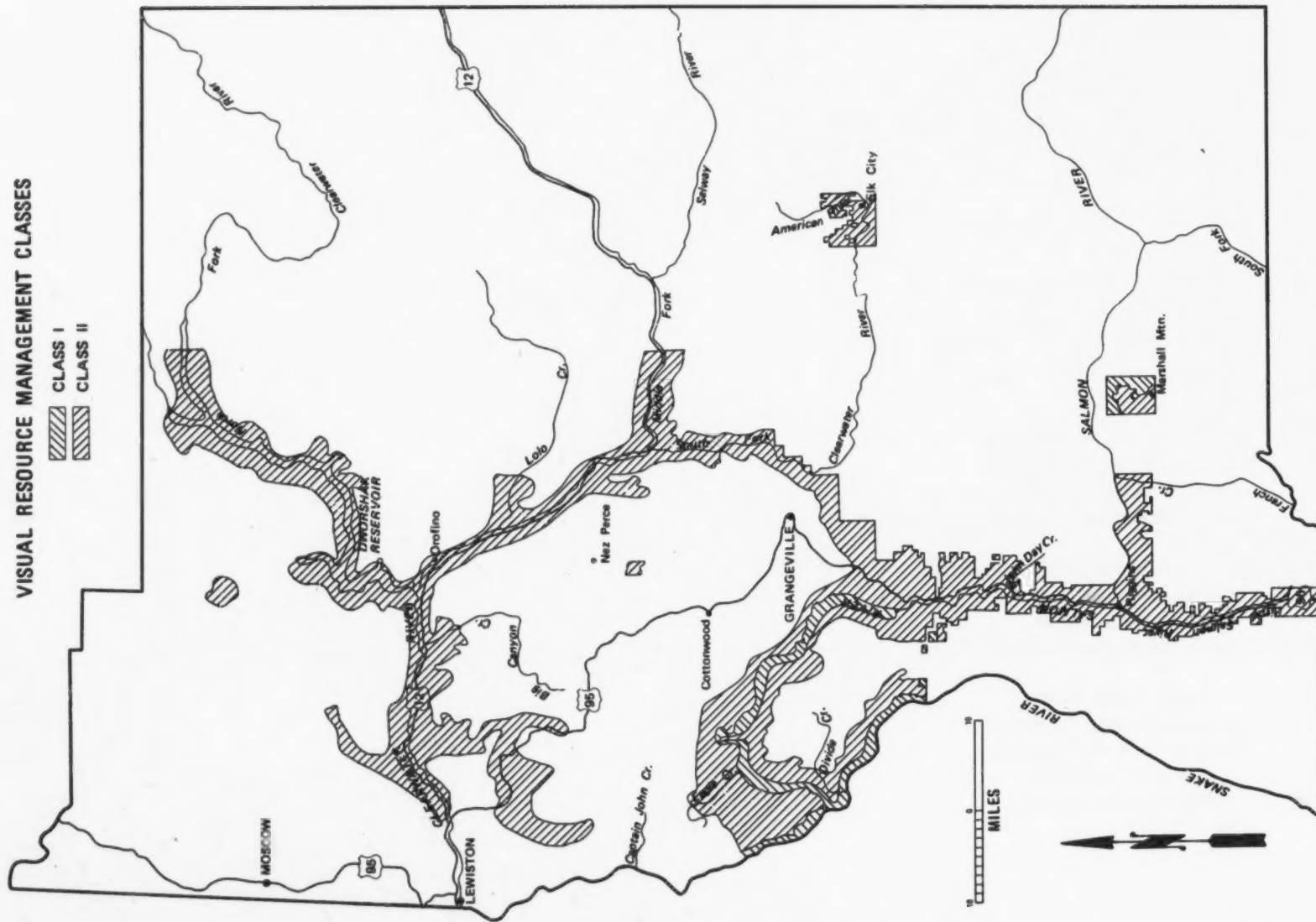


MAP 4 (CONT.)

COEUR D'ALENE DISTRICT
SOUTH UNIT

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES

- CLASS I
CLASS II



NOTES

**Coeur d'Alene District Office
Bureau of Land Management
1808 North Third Street
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814**

**Cottonwood Resource Area Headquarters
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Route 3, Box 181
Cottonwood, Idaho 83522**

**Idaho State Office
Bureau of Land Management
Federal Building – Box 042
550 West Fort Street
Boise, Idaho 83724**